

IN THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 5 and 7-13, and ADD claims 14-26 in accordance with the following:

1-13. (Cancelled)

14. (New) A gateway telecommunication device, comprising:

a first port to connect said device to a circuit switched telecommunication network;

a second port to connect said device to a packet based telecommunication network;

means for initiating and receiving calls for a user in the same home or office location as where said device is located;

means for said user to interface with said device without using a telecommunication network;

means in said device for executing requests from said user to initiate calls to parties on the circuit switched network or the packet based telecommunication network; and

a single channel gateway means in said device for establishing a path between said first port and said second port inside said device in response to a request from a server on the packet based telecommunication network acting on behalf of a caller at a remote location,

whereby the gateway telecommunication device can serve as part of a distributed gateway system between said packet based telecommunication network and said circuit switched telecommunication network for said caller and whereby the device increases the capacity of said distributed gateway system.

15. (New) A gateway telecommunication device according to claim 14, further comprising a third port to connect a conventional telephone apparatus via said device to said first port.

16. (New) A gateway telecommunication device according to claim 14, further comprising a mechanism to automatically connect said third port directly to said first port in the event of

power failure.

17. (New) A system for telecommunication utilizing both a circuit switched telecommunication network and a packet based telecommunication network, comprising:

- multiple gateway telecommunication devices each having
 - a first port to connect said device to a circuit switched telecommunication network;
 - a second port to connect said device to a packet based telecommunication network;
 - means for initiating and receiving calls for a user in the same home or office location as where said device is located;
 - means for said user to interface with said device without using a telecommunication network;
 - means in said device for executing requests from said user to initiate calls to parties on the circuit switched network or the packet based telecommunication network; and
 - a single channel gateway means in said device for establishing a path between said first port and said second port inside said device in response to a request from a server on the packet based telecommunication network acting on behalf of a caller at a remote location,
- whereby the gateway telecommunication device can serve as part of a distributed gateway system between said packet based telecommunication network and said circuit switched telecommunication network for said caller and whereby the device increases the capacity of said distributed gateway system.

18. (New) A system for telecommunication according to claim 17, further comprising:

- gateway location servers connected to said packet based telecommunication network, said gateway location servers being adapted to receive a request from a first gateway telecommunication device connected to said packet based telecommunication network for telecommunication with a specified telephone apparatus on said circuit switched telecommunication network, and further being programmed to select a second of said gateway telecommunication devices to serve as a gateway between said networks for said requested connection, and to forward said request to said second gateway telecommunication device via said packet based telecommunication network.

19. (New) A system for telecommunication according to claim 17, wherein the packet

based telecommunication network comprises the Internet.

20. (New) A system for telecommunication according to claim 18, wherein the packet based telecommunication network comprises the Internet.

21. (New) A system for telecommunication according to claim 18, wherein each of said gateway telecommunication devices includes means for registering with said gateway location servers the availability of said device to act as a gateway between said packet based network and said circuit switched network.

22. (New) A system for telecommunication according to claim 21, wherein each of said registered gateway telecommunication devices includes means for automatically notifying said gateway location servers when its PSTN connection is Off Hook so it temporarily is not available to serve as a gateway between the packet based network and the circuit switched network.

23. (New) A gateway telecommunication device according to claim 14, further comprising means for registering at said server the availability of said device to act as a gateway between said first port and said second port.

24. (New) A system for telecommunication according to claim 17, further comprising means for registering at said server the availability of said device to act as a gateway between said first port and said second port.

25. (New) A gateway telecommunication device according to claim 14, wherein the circuit switched telecommunication network comprises a wireless cellular telecommunication network and where said first port is arranged to communicate with said wireless telecommunication network.

26. (New) A system for telecommunication according to claim 17, wherein the circuit switched telecommunication network comprises a wireless cellular telecommunication network and where said first port is arranged to communicate with said wireless telecommunication network.